Dedicated to Nature—and Nonprofits

A love of the outdoors and a personal commitment to conservation of natural resources led Lea Harvey to a career in nonprofit management—with a particular bent toward environmental policy.

Recently named vice president of development at RFF, Harvey brings to that role years of experience as a fundraising executive for leading environmental and nonprofit governing organizations.

RFF President Phil Sharp noted that Harvey's proven abilities in solicitation and stewardship of financial resources for nonprofit groups were exemplary qualifications for her new position. "Lea affords us a demonstrated enthusiasm for nonprofit development and a solid background in environmental issues," said Sharp. "She understands our mission and will add significant value to our management team and to our fundraising operation."

Growing up in a small town in coastal South Carolina, Harvey spent much of her time outdoors and, in her words, "was enthralled with the natural world." She continues to set aside time for bicycling, hiking in the mountains, canoeing in wilderness areas, and finding the best fly-fishing spots.

After graduating from Sweet Briar College in Virginia with a degree in art history and minor in nonprofit management, Harvey came to Washington assuming she would explore work in museums. "I soon learned that my heart was in organizations that made a positive difference in the quality of people's lives," she says. "Before long, I was ensconced in the world of nonprofits and the environment."

From 1998 to 2005, she worked in several key positions at the World Wildlife Fund, an international conservation organization. As director of foundation and corporate relations, she led a staff of six to build a $14.5 million foundation and corporate fundraising program. She also focused on building partnerships with foundation and corporate grantmakers to advance conservation and sustainability initiatives in the United States, Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

Most recently, until she joined RFF, Harvey was vice president of development at BoardSource, a Washington-based publishing and consulting organization dedicated to strengthening nonprofits of all sizes and mission types by strengthening the boards that lead them.

"Our mandate was to help nonprofit boards of directors and chief executives to become the most strategic and effective leaders they could be," she says. "That involves an intense focus on mission, candid evaluation of successes and failures, and strategic planning that pays off in better results. It gave me invaluable insights into how good nonprofits work, and how others may falter."

Kathryn Fuller, a member of the RFF Board and former president and CEO of the World Wildlife Fund, noted that Harvey's skills in nonprofit management and development would be major assets in her new position. "Lea has a wonderful personal style and a keen intelligence, and she attracts genuine respect from her colleagues," says Fuller. "And to be sure, she's a producer of good results." ■

Meeting Future Energy Needs in the Context of Global Climate Change

Raymond J. Kopp

In June, Senior Fellow Ray Kopp, director of RFF's Climate Policy Program, testified before the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on meeting increased global energy demands in the context of addressing global climate change. This article is based on his full testimony.

In order to meet a carbon dioxide (CO_2) concentration target of 450 parts per million, the widely agreed-upon number for stabilizing the rate of global climate change, sobering economic challenges lie ahead in terms of the investments needed for research, development, and demonstration (RD&D) and physical capital but the technology path itself is feasible.

A good deal of our collective understanding of the challenges posed by climate change is reflected in the recent International Energy Agency's (IEA) report, *Energy Technology Perspectives 2008: Scenarios and Strategies to 2050.* (Kopp was asked to summarize the report's findings.) Most importantly, there is no silver bullet. In addition to conservation, virtually all commercially available low-carbon technologies and those that will become available over the next few decades must be deployed.

Two things will have to happen if substantive progress is to be made. Carbon pricing will be crucial to providing sufficient incentives for both conservation and technology development and deployment. And governments will be required to greatly enhance spending on RD&D and to ensure the efficiency and efficacy of that spending. But the biggest hurdle is likely to be building up sufficient momentum—time is not on our side, for two key reasons.

Global demand for energy continues to rise, and the bulk of that increase will come from non-OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development) countries. Correspondingly, the necessary investments in energy-producing and -consuming technologies must take place there as well, although new low- and no-carbon energy sources (such as nuclear and renewables) will be more costly than conventional sources. In OECD countries, we may be willing to bear higher carbon prices but non-OECD countries are already hard-pressed to afford current fossil fuel technology, much less subsidize low- and no-carbon energy sources.

Investing in RD&D, conservation, and physical, energy-related capital must begin immediately. Any delay means greater atmospheric concentrations in the coming years. Unfortunately, we cannot wave a magic wand and will this process to commence. Rather, we must follow a slow and arduous path to develop and implement the many public policies, domestic and international, that will remove barriers and enable investment.

We must buy some badly needed time and, fortunately, we have a very good option, namely the 15 to 20 percent of global CO_2 emissions that come from deforestation in tropical countries. While it is now widely known that China and the United States are the two largest CO_2 emitters, the next two are Brazil and Indonesia, due to widespread deforestation.

Reducing CO_2 emissions by reducing deforestation can be accomplished with targeted domestic policies that alter the economics of land use to make a standing forest more valuable than alternative uses of the land. Using the growing international carbon market and the nascent U.S. market to monetize the carbon contained in standing forests will provide the economic incentives needed to alter land-use decisions.

In principle, such land-use decisions could be changed very quickly, giving rise to rapid reductions in CO_2 emissions. These large-scale reductions in forest-related CO_2 are sure to become ever more valuable in light of the hard work ahead to achieve the needed fossil-based reductions in the decades ahead. ■

An Overview of the Economic Benefits of Cooperatives and Individual Fishing Quota Systems

James N. Sanchirico

In July, RFF University Fellow James Sanchirico testified before the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee for Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard. This article is based on his full testimony, which is available on our website.

The marine species residing in U.S. territorial waters and the men and women who make their livelihood from them are at a critical juncture. Without secure access to the resource, individual "fishers" compete with each other to capture as much of it as possible.

Cooperating under so-called rule of capture incentives, whereby the catch is not owned until onboard a vessel, results in a competition for fish that leads to low wages, dangerous working conditions, low-valued products, excess harvesting and fish processing capacity, and ever-shorter fishing seasons. Economically depressed fisheries are vulnerable to short-term thinking and risk-taking, and fishery participants cannot afford to invest in long-term sustainability.

This outcome is in nobody's best interest. In other words, it's a classic tragedy of the commons.

These conditions are not fated, however. Policies that address the rule of capture incentives include fishing cooperatives and individual fishing quota systems (IFQs). In each policy, the allocation of catch shares reduces the incentives to invest in the "race for fish." Participants have a greater certainty about their catch levels and the ability to buy and sell shares provides flexibility for